

Doctoral Workshop “Writing Skills for Social Scientists” (1.5 ECTS)

When?	Wednesday, 23.11.2022 and Thursday, 24.11.2022, both days 10am – 5.00pm
Where?	University of Bern—UniS, Schanzeneckstrasse 1, 3012 Bern
Who?	Dr. Christian Rosser and Erwin Egli

Christian Rosser is an expert in Public Administration with wide experience in research and teaching. He has been teaching academic writing at several levels (PhD, MA, BA) for more than 10 years. He is Chief Operating Officer at sitem-insel AG and lecturer at the Executive Master of Public Administration MPA of the KPM Center for Public Management at the University of Bern. Prior to this position, he also served as substitute of a W3-professorship in “Comparative Policy Analysis and Administration” at the University of Konstanz.

Erwin Egli from Ontario, Canada, is a lecturer for English at several language schools.

With the help of a “cookbook approach”, **the purpose of this two-day seminar** is to provide students who feel the need to strengthen their skills in academic writing with the appropriate knowledge to do so. Participants will become acquainted with the relevant aspects of successful writing such as the planning and composition of whole papers, good introductions and conclusions, well-structured paragraphs, stylistically adequate sentences, etc. The course generally aims to help students compose better congress contributions, scientific publications, and doctoral theses. More specifically, participants may improve their skills regarding:

- Ability to self-correct their own work
- Making a clear distinction between their own and other people’s ideas
- Appropriate vocabulary
- Presentation of ideas in an organized way
- Clear statement of a problem
- Additional aspects according to participants’ preferences
- Grammar and sentence structure
- Connections between a paper’s elements

The teacher-centered part of the course will be structured according to a usual process of composing a paper (from general to specific) and will be focused on answering the following questions:

- How to get from a research interest to a research question?
- How to structure a paper in its whole?
- Who am I writing for (audience design and publishing strategy)?
- How to compose a paragraph?
- What is the appropriate style?
- How to compose an introduction?
- How to compose a conclusion?

The subsequent writing workshop is based on whatever texts the participants are currently working on. Before the course, students will be asked to hand in their own drafts/ongoing research and bring them to the course. With the lecturer’s assistance, they will have the opportunity to work on several aspects of their manuscripts that might need improvement. Every student will also be asked to choose a peer reviewer among the other participants, with whom they can further discuss and revise their work.

Course requirements

Please hand in paper or part of doctoral thesis (**preferably the introduction**) you wish to discuss and work on during the course no later than two weeks before the course (until **9.11.2022** the latest).

You may also hand in specific questions you would like us to address during the course no later than two weeks before the course (until **9.11.2022** the latest).

Registration: kpm@kpm.unibe.ch, **Deadline: 09 November 2022**

Preliminary Program (may be adapted to participants' requirements)

Day 1 – “Structure Morning”

10:00	Plenary session: Aims of the seminar
10:30	Plenary session: The “theory” of a scientific paper (Christian Rosser)
12:00	<i>Lunch break</i>

Day 1 – “Workshop Afternoon”

13:00	Plenary session continued: The “theory” of a scientific paper (Christian Rosser)
14:00	Individual work and bilateral exchange with lecturers (as needed by participants)
16:30	Plenary session: Closing remarks & questions
17:00	<i>End of day 1</i>

Day 2 – “Grammar & Style Morning”

10:00	Plenary session: Grammar and Style of a scientific paper (Erwin Egli) tailored to the participants' needs (based on their writing)
12:00	<i>Lunch break</i>

Schedule Day 2 – “Workshop Afternoon”

13:00	Individual work and bilateral exchange with lecturers (as needed by participants)
15:30	Plenary session: Closing remarks/questions/feedback
17:00	<i>End of day 2</i>